

BATMAN

NO.56
DEC...JAN.

In this issue:
THE DYNAMIC DUO
IN A SWASHBUCKLING
SOUTH AMERICAN
ADVENTURE--

"RIDE,
BAT-HOMBRE,
RIDE!"





XMAS MORNING

MERRY CHRISTMAS, JIMMY!

HOT DOG! A ROADMASTER! WHAT A CHRISTMAS! THANKS MOTHER AND DAD! I'M THE LUCKIEST GUY IN THE WORLD!

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BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

11-6 45 PM '51

SALUDOS, AMIGOS!

WHO IS THIS **BAT-HOMBRE**,
WHO LASHES OUT WITH A
COURAGE AND A DARING
EQUALLED ONLY BY HIS
NAMESAKE, **BATMAN**?

AND WHAT ARE **BATMAN**
AND **ROBIN** DOING IN THE
LAND OF THE GAUCHO AND
THE WILDEST BANDITS IN
THE WORLD?

FOR HIGH ADVENTURE THEN,
COME WITH US, AMIGOS,
DOWN SOUTH AMERICAN WAY
WHERE THE NATIVES CRY...

"RIDE, BAT-HOMBRE, RIDE!"



**BOB
KANE**

BATMAN, No. 56, Dec.-Jan., 1949-50. Published bi-monthly by National Comics Publications, Inc., 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17. N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. Reentered as second class matter Aug. 1, 1941 at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. 75c including postage. Foreign, \$1.50 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205

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Printed in U.S.A.

HIGH FESTIVITY REIGNS, AS ALL GOTHAM CITY WELCOMES THE VISITING PRESIDENT OF MANTEGUA, TINY LATIN-AMERICAN REPUBLIC...



ALL EYES ON HIM, AGED, BELOVED PRESIDENT JOSÉ CAMARAN WARMLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE ROARS OF THE CROWD...



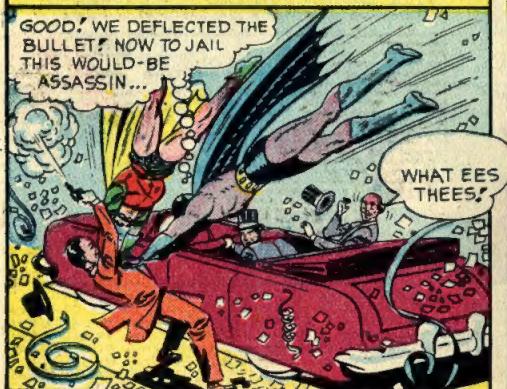
AND, AS THE PROCESSION CONTINUES, IT PASSES THE VANTAGE POINT OF GOTHAM CITY'S FAMOUS CRIME-BUSTERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER.



AND, IN THE NEXT MOMENT, THE MAN BATMAN HAS BEEN WATCHING SUDDENLY WHIPS OUT A GUN, AS...



BUT, MOVING WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT, THE DYNAMIC DUO DIVES ON THE ATTACKER, AS...



AND LATER, IN PRESIDENT CAMARAN'S HOTEL SUITE...



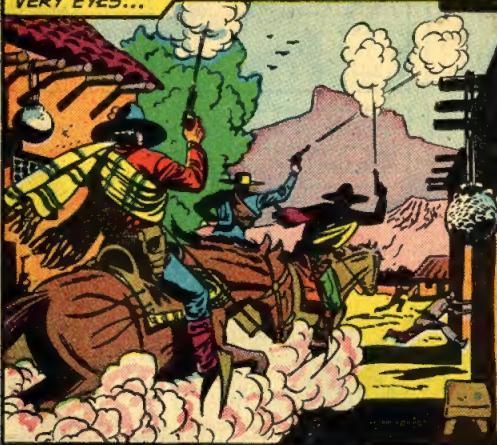
IT WAS AN HONOR TO PROTECT YOU, MR. PRESIDENT!



I AM TEMPTED TO ASK OF YOU A GREAT FAVOR, BATMAN! BUT FIRST, I WOULD TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT THE COUNTRY I RULE...



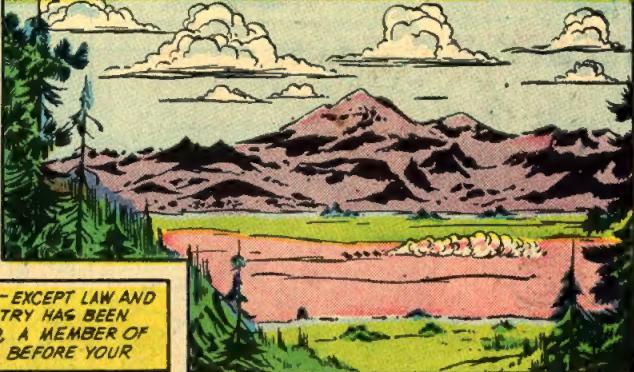
"WE LACK FOR NOTHING, BATMAN - EXCEPT LAW AND ORDER. FOR YEARS NOW, MY COUNTRY HAS BEEN TERRORIZED BY A CRIMINAL BAND, A MEMBER OF WHICH TRIED TO ASSASSINATE ME BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES..."



"EL PAPAGAYO IS A DEADLY HOMBRE, BATMAN! ONE MOMENT HE CAN BE AS FRIENDLY AS A PUPPY, AND THE NEXT MOMENT HE CAN SHOOT YOU DOWN IN COLD BLOODS!"



"IT IS A TINY COUNTRY, BATMAN - BUT A BEAUTIFUL ONE--A LAND OF ROLLING PAMPAS AND WILD, MAJESTIC MOUNTAINS..."



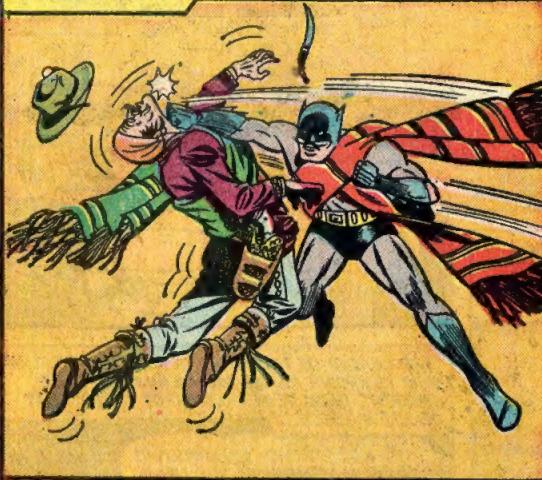
"THE LEADER OF THIS BAND IS A RUTHLESS OUTLAW WHO IS KNOWN AS EL PAPAGAYO OR, 'THE PARROT', BECAUSE OF THE PARROT 'TOTO' THAT IS HIS MASCOT..."



"YOU CAN IMAGINE, BATMAN, HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR MY COUNTRY TO RID ITSELF OF SUCH A VILLAIN - A MAN WHO LETS THE WHIMS OF A BIRD DECIDE THE FATE OF HIS PRISONERS..."



"SEEING YOU, BATMAN, HAS REVIVED AN OLD DREAM OF MINE—A DREAM THAT YOU WOULD COME DOWN TO MY COUNTRY AND TRAIN SOMEONE TO IMITATE YOU—A BAT-HOMBRE, WHO WOULD RID US OF EL PAPAGAYO FOR ALL TIME..."



THAT IS THE FAVOR I WOULD ASK, SEÑOR BATMAN. THAT YOU TRAIN ANOTHER BATMAN, WHO WOULD COOPERATE WITH THE POLICE TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER...



I AM AN OLD MAN—I HAVE NOT MUCH LONGER TO LIVE. IN MY TIME I WOULD LIKE TO SEE EL PAPAGAYO BROUGHT TO JUSTICE AND MY COUNTRY DELIVERED FROM HIS BONDAGE...



AND THUS IT IS THAT, TWO DAYS LATER, THE BAT PLANE IS WINGING OVER THE CARIBBEAN!

BY ALL MEANS, BATMAN, ACCEPT! IT'S PRETTY QUIET HERE RIGHT NOW—WE CAN SPARE YOU... AND YOUR VISIT WOULD BE A WONDERFUL AFFIRMATION OF OUR GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY!



THE PRESIDENT DECIDED IT WOULD BE PRETTY HARD TO FIND ANOTHER BOY LIKE YOU, ROBIN—SO WE'LL JUST CONCENTRATE ON A BATMAN!

THAT'LL BE JOB ENOUGH! I UNDERSTAND HE'S GOING TO PARADE THE CREAM OF THE COUNTRY'S MAN HOOD BEFORE US TO BE TESTED FOR THE JOB!





AND, AT THE AIRPORT IN CASANEGRO, CAPITAL CITY OF MANTEGUA...



LATER, AT THE EXECUTIVE MANSION...



FIRST THING TO DO IS TO FIND A PLACE OF OPERATIONS WHERE OUR FUTURE **BAT-HOMBRE** WILL LIVE...



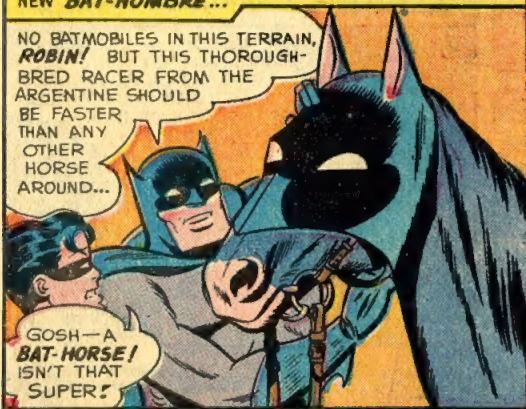
THIS GROTTO IS PERFECT, ROBIN, FOR ANOTHER BATCAVE...

YES - IT'S DIRECTLY UNDER AN ABANDONED FARMHOUSE. OUR **BAT-HOMBRE** CAN LIVE THERE...



FOR DAYS, BATMAN AND ROBIN SET THE STAGE FOR THE NEW **BAT-HOMBRE**...

NO BATMOBILES IN THIS TERRAIN, ROBIN! BUT THIS THOROUGH-BRED RACER FROM THE ARGENTINE SHOULD BE FASTER THAN ANY OTHER HORSE AROUND...



THEN, THE FIRST COMPLICATION ARISES, WHEN PRESIDENT CAMARAN THROWS OPEN HIS COLLECTION OF WEAPONS FOR THE FUTURE **BAT-HOMBRE'S** USE...

NO, MR. PRESIDENT—WE CAN'T ACCEPT ANY OF THESE WEAPONS. **BATMAN NEVER** FIRES A GUN OR USES A KNIFE!

BUT—EL PAPAGAYO AND HIS MEN ARE RUTHLESS KILLERS. HOW COULD ONE FIGHT THEM WITHOUT WEAPONS LIKE THESE?





WE HAVE RUTHLESS
KILLERS IN **OUR**
COUNTRY, TOO, MR.
PRESIDENT—AND
WE'VE MANAGED
WITH OUR OWN
WEAPONS...

YES—AND
INSTEAD OF OUR
SILKEN CORD, THE
BAT-HOMBRE WILL
USE THIS **WHIP!** WATCH—
I'LL DEMONSTRATE...



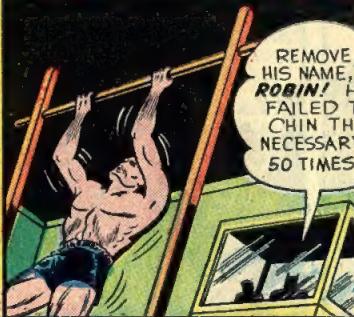
AND, AS THE WHIP'S END SNAKES AROUND THE
BRANCH OF A TREE...

AMAZING
...AMAZING!



AND AS
APPLICANT
AFTER
APPLICANT
DISPLAYS HIS
ATHLETIC
PROWESS
BEFORE THE
CRITICAL
EYES OF
BATMAN
AND
ROBIN...

REMOVE
HIS NAME, TOO,
ROBIN! HE'S
FAILED TO
CHIN THE
NECESSARY
50 TIMES...



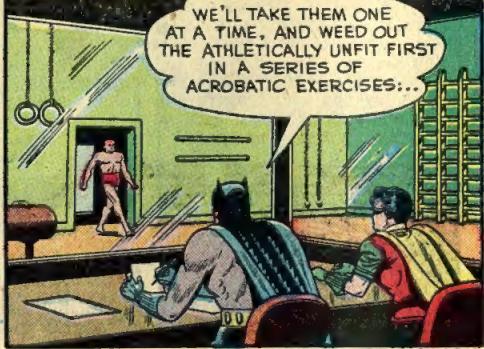
QUICKLY, THE VAUNTED **LAWMAN** LASHES THE WHIP
OUT A WINDOW...

WITH THIS WHIP,
THE **BAT-HOMBRE**
WILL BE ABLE TO SPEED
THROUGH THE ROUGHEST
TERRAIN...



LATER, HAVING SECURED ALL THE **BAT-HOMBRE'S**
EQUIPMENT, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE READY TO
INTERVIEW APPLICANTS...

WE'LL TAKE THEM ONE
AT A TIME, AND WEED OUT
THE ATHLETICALLY UNFIT FIRST
IN A SERIES OF
ACROBATIC EXERCISES...



FOR DAYS, THE CREAM OF MANTEGA'S MANHOOD
GOES THROUGH A GRUELING EXAMINATION...

GOOD! HE
KNOCKED THE GUN
RIGHT OUT OF THE DUMMY'S
HANDS! HE'S GOT EXCELLENT
CONTROL OF THAT
WHIP!





BUT, AS TIME PASSES, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE FACED WITH WHAT SEEMS A HOPELESS TASK...

SCORES OF APPLICANTS—
AND NOT ONE GOOD ENOUGH
TO BE **BAT-HOMBRE**!
IF ONE IS AN ATHLETE, IT
TURNS OUT HE'S NO DETECTIVE;
AND IF ONE IS A DETECTIVE,
IT TURNS OUT HE'S NO
ATHLETE!

THIS WILL BREAK
PRESIDENT CAMARAN'S
HEART! THERE MUST
BE **SOMEONE**
WHO CAN QUALIFY—
COME ON, **ROBIN**,
WE'VE A FEW NAMES
LEFT...



LATER, **BATMAN** CONGRATULATES THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE,
A PLEASANT YOUNG MAN NAMED LUIS PERALDA, IN THE
GROTTO THAT IS TO BE HIS FUTURE **BATCAVE**!

NICE GOING, LUIS! NOW YOU'RE READY
FOR SPECIAL TRAINING— AND TO LEARN
THE SECRETS OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!
BE HERE EARLY TOMORROW, WHEN WE'LL
BEGIN... AND, OF COURSE, YOU MUST
PLEDGE YOURSELF TO SECRECY!

NO WORRY,
SEÑORS! I
AM AWARE OF
THE IMPORTANCE
OF MY JOB.
LUIS LIPS ARE
SEALED!



THEN, DESPAIR TURNS TO ELATION, AS ONE OF THE LAST
APPLICANTS PASSES ALL TESTS WITH FLYING COLORS!



HE PASSED
EVERY OTHER
TEST WITH
EXCELLENT
RATINGS— AND
NOW HE'S
PROVING HIS
ABILITY AS
AN ATHLETE!

LOOKS
LIKE WE'VE
FOUND OUR
MAN, **ROBIN**!

BUT, THAT EVENING...

HELLO, PEDRO!
THIS IS LUIS.
I FOOLED THE
BATMAN!
I GOT THE
JOB!

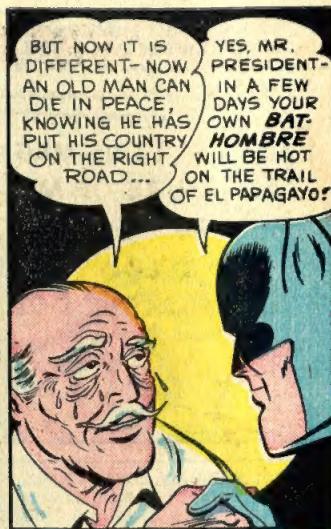
BUENO! EL
PAPAGAYO WILL
BE IMMEDIATELY
INFORMED! HE WILL
REWARD YOU
HANDSOMELY, LUIS!



THIS IS
THE UTILITY BELT.
YOU WILL FIND IT
EXCEEDINGLY HANDY
TO PULL YOU OUT OF
SCRAPES...

HA-HA! AFTER YOU'VE
EXPLAINED IT TO ME,
BATMAN, I'LL USE IT
AGAINST **YOU**, FOR
CRIME!





Most Sensational Tom Mix Offer Ever!

SEND FOR THIS MAGIC
MINIATURE OF MY
OWN SIX-SHOOTER.
READ BELOW ABOUT
THE TRICKS IT DOES!



IT'S A BEAUTIFUL WATCH FOB,
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HIDDEN HOOK holds arrowhead on your belt above watch pocket.
Fasten special clasp to wear around your wrist.

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be withdrawn at any time.



BUT WHAT WILL I TELL
BATMAN AND ROBIN?
THEY WILL SURELY
NOTICE...

BAH-IT IS NOTHING?
A BIRD'S CLAWS-THAT
IS ALL? TELL THEM
YOU WERE ATTACKED
BY A NIGHT HAWK...

AND, THE NEXT DAY...

...IT WAS SOMETHING, I TELL
YOU! THIS UGLY HAWK
SWOOPED OUT OF THE NIGHT
AND TRIED TO MAKE OFF
WITH ME. BUT I KILLED
IT QUICKLY...

HMMMM-HE'S
DELIBERATELY
LYING!
THIS IS
SERIOUS!

AND SOON AFTER, WHEN **BATMAN** IS ABLE TO
PULL **ROBIN** ASIDE...

WHISPER: HE'S LYING,
ROBIN! THOSE MARKS
WERE NOT MADE BY A
HAWK- BUT BY A
PARROT! AND THAT
COULD VERY WELL
MEAN...

EL PAPAGAYO!
HE COULD BE PART
OF HIS GANG; BUT
HOW CAN YOU BE
SURE IT WAS A
PARROT?

WHISPER: ONE OF THE DEFINITE
CHARACTERISTICS OF A PARROT
IS THE **REVERSED FOURTH
DIGIT** OF THE FOOT! LOOK AT
THOSE CLAW MARKS!

CONVINCED THAT SOME SORT OF TREACHERY
IS AFOOT, **BATMAN** TRIES A SURPRISE ATTACK,
AND...

THOSE CLAW MARKS
ON YOUR SHOULDER
WERE MADE BY A
PARROT, LUIS!

WE KNOW
WHERE YOU'VE
BEEN!

BUT YOU
COULDN'T?
I COVERED
MY TRAIL-
I (GASP)

YOUR BLUFF
WORKED, **BATMAN**!
HIS GUILT IS
NOW EVIDENT!

TRAPPED, THE FALSE **BAT-HOMBRE** QUICKLY
REGAINS HIS WITS, AS...

ALL RIGHT-YOU'RE ON
TO ME! BUT YOU DARE
NOT EXPOSE ME! IF
CAMARAN WERE TO
LEARN OF THIS, IT
WOULD BREAK HIS
HEART!

HE'S RIGHT, **ROBIN**!
I'VE TOLD CAMARAN
THAT A **BAT-HOMBRE**
WOULD RIDE AGAINST
CRIME TOMORROW-
THIS NEWS WOULD STAGGER
THE OLD MAN!



LET'S FACE IT, **BATMAN!** LUIS WAS THE CLOSEST REPLACEMENT TO A **BATMAN** WE COULD FIND - AND NOW **HE'S OUT!** THERE JUST ISN'T A **ANOTHER BATMAN ANYWHERE!**

BUT WE CAN'T LET CAMARAN DISCOVER THAT! WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!



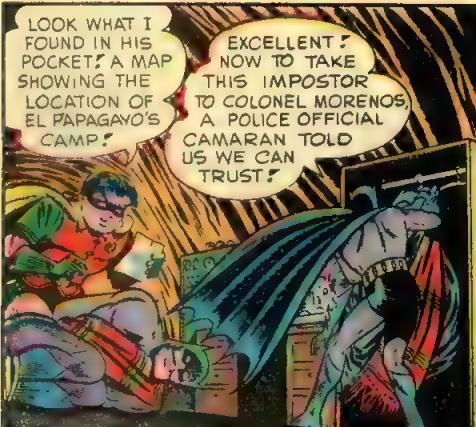
HIS BRILLIANT MIND RACING, **BATMAN** SUDDENLY MAKES HIS DECISION!

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY, **ROBIN!** WE'LL KEEP LUIS ON ICE, WHERE HE CAN'T REACH CAMARAN - AND I'LL TAKE OVER AS **BAT-HOMBRE!**



LOOK WHAT I FOUND IN HIS POCKET! A MAP SHOWING THE LOCATION OF EL PAPAGAYO'S CAMP!

EXCELLENT! NOW TO TAKE THIS IMPOSTOR TO COLONEL MORENOS, A POLICE OFFICIAL CAMARAN TOLD US WE CAN TRUST!



AND LATER, IN COLONEL MORENOS' OFFICE...

NO NEED TO WORRY, **BATMAN!** I WILL PUT HIM IN SOLITARY-HE WILL BE ABLE TO SPEAK TO NO ONE!

GOOD! NOW - **ROBIN** WILL LEAVE YOU A COPY OF THE MAP! AS SOON AS YOU CAN, ROUND UP A FORCE TO MEET US AT EL PAPAGAYO'S HIDEOUT!



AND, STILL LATER, **BATMAN** PAYS THE PRESIDENT A SURPRISE VISIT...

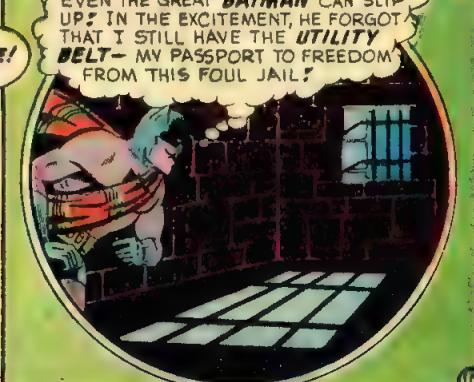
BEFORE I LEAVE TO CAPTURE EL PAPAGAYO, I THOUGHT I'D PAY MY RESPECTS, MR. PRESIDENT!

AT LAST-OUR COUNTRY HAS ITS OWN **BAT-HOMBRE!** GODSPEED!



MEANWHILE, AT THE PRISON...

EVEN THE GREAT **BATMAN** CAN SLIP UP! IN THE EXCITEMENT, HE FORGOT THAT I STILL HAVE THE **UTILITY BELT** - MY PASSPORT TO FREEDOM FROM THIS FOUL JAIL!





NICE OF
BATMAN TO
HAVE SHOWN ME HOW
TO CREATE AN EXPLOSION!
NOW TO HALT HIM
BEFORE HE REACHES
EL PAPAGAYO!

MEANWHILE, AN AWESOME SPECTACLE LOOMS
UP ON THE ROLLING PAMPAS—THE **BAT-HORSE**,
THUNDERING INTO ACTION!

HOLD ON, **ROBIN!**
THIS **BAT-HORSE** IS
A FOUR-FOOTED
TORNADO!

AND, IN THE JAGGED MOUNTAINS NEAR EL PAPAGAYO'S
CAMP...

THE CAMP'S
DEAD AHEAD! GO
DOWN THIS SIDE,
ROBIN—AND LOOK
FOR A TRAIL. I'LL TRY
THIS OTHER SIDE
AND MEET YOU
HERE IN FIVE
MINUTES...

FRANTICALLY, **ROBIN**
CLINGS TO HIS LEDGE
AS THE BATTLE
REACHES ITS VIOLENT
CONCLUSION...

REACHING THE FOOT OF THE
CLIFF, **ROBIN**'S FOOT TANGLES
IN A VINE. AND, AS HE
STRUGGLES TO FREE HIMSELF
SUDDENLY...

A WILD, SWAYING BATTLE
SKIRTS THE EDGE OF THE
CLIFF! THEN, AS **ROBIN**
BREAKS FREE, AND RUSHES
TO HELP **BATMAN**...

HA-HA-BATMAN!
THE TABLES ARE
TURNED! NOW
I WILL
KILL
YOU!

IT'S LUIS!
HE'S
ESCAPED!

SOMEONE'S
FALLING?
IS IT
BATMAN?

BATMAN!
BATMAN!
IS THAT YOU?



ONCE AGAIN, DEATHLY SILENCE GRIPS THE AIR. THEN, AS ROBIN BRACES...

HE'S COMING! WHOEVER IT IS— HE'S COMING!



THEN SUDDENLY, THE FREEZING SUSPENSE IS SHATTERED AS...

WELL, ROBIN—WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WAITING FOR A STREET-CAR?

OH, BATMAN—IT'S YOU! PHEW— WAS I WORRIED!



THEN, WITHOUT WARNING, A SWARM OF BANDITS LEAPS OUT TO SURPRISE AND CAPTURE BATMAN AND ROBIN!

THROW THEM UNDER GUARD UNTIL EL PARAGAYO RETURNS!

EL PAPAGAYO'S MEN! THE NOISE OF THE FIGHT MUST HAVE BROUGHT THEM!



LATER, IN THE TENT WHERE THEY ARE HELD PRISONER...

A FINE MESS WE'VE MADE OF THINGS!

WAIT! THESE BERRIES— AND THIS CURARE BARK GIVE ME AN IDEA!



AND, PRESENTLY, WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO IS BROUGHT BEFORE THE BANDIT CHIEFTAIN...

HAH! THIS FOREIGNER, JUST FEEDING YOUR PARROT THE NERVE IN MY AFFAIRS? HERE! OF HIM! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? SOME BERRIES, TRYING EL PAPAGAYO, TO BRIBE I'M VERY FOND OF PARROTS!



THEN, EL PAPAGAYO ASKS TOTO TO PASS SENTENCE UPON BATMAN AND ROBIN!

KILL THEM! GIVE THEM WHIPS—MAKE THEM BEAT THEMSELVES TO DEATH WITH THE WHIPS!

TERRIFICO, TOTO. TERRIFICO! YOU HAVE GREAT IMAGINATION! QUICKLY, CARLOS—BRING WHIPS!





MOMENTS LATER...

SUDDENLY, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** LASH OUT WITH THEIR WHIPS - BUT IN A MANNER TO SURPRISE COMPLETELY EL PAPAGAYO AND HIS MEN!

THEN, COILING THEIR WHIPS AROUND THE BRANCHES OF ANOTHER TREE, THE AMAZING LAWMEN LITERALLY BOWL THEIR OPPONENTS OVER, AS...



THE COMPLETELY-DISORGANIZED BANDITS ARE NO MATCH FOR MORENOS AND HIS MEN, AND IN A FEW MOMENTS ALL ARE CAPTURED!

JUST BEFORE WE LEFT CASANEGRO, WE HEARD THAT PRESIDENT CAMARAN HAD DIED - BUT WITH A SMILE ON HIS LIPS... THANKS TO YOU, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**...HIS DEATH WAS INEVITABLE, I SUPPOSE. **ROBIN** AND I CAN TAKE SOLACE IN THE FACT THAT HE DIED A HAPPY MAN...AND NEXT DAY, WINGING HOMeward IN THE **BATPLANE**...THAT WAS A NEAT TRICK, **BATMAN** - FEEDING THE PARROT THOSE CURARE-DOSED BERRIES AND THEN IMITATING ITS VOICE TO GET US THOSE WHIPS!

BUT WHAT ABOUT CURARE - ISN'T IT A DEADLY POISON?



THE END

MORE CHILLS AND THRILLS WITH THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE TEAM - **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** - IN WORLD'S FINEST COMICS AND DETECTIVE COMICS

ADVERTISEMENT

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GIRLS!

HURRY! BE THE FIRST TO GO
ROARING BY WITH A WONDERFUL

CHUGGA-MOTA!

SOUNDS LIKE A
REAL MOTORCYCLE

ONLY **20¢**

WITH TWO FRONT COVERS
OF SMITH BROTHERS
WILD CHERRY
COUGH DROP BOXES

Here's how it works. You'll be the envy of every kid in the neighborhood when you go ripping and roaring down the street with your Smith Brothers' CHUGGA-MOTA! Looks like a real two-cylinder motor. Nothing ever before made with this special motor sound chamber. Sturdy, colorful. You just fasten it onto the rear wheel of your bike—or the front wheel of a tricycle—and the faster you pedal, the louder it roars! Play speed cop, or army messenger. Have wonderful parades. Get several! They make dandy birthday presents, too!



HERE'S ALL YOU DO

To get your own wonderful roaring CHUGGA-MOTA . . . print your name and address on any little slip of paper. Put it in an envelope along with 20¢, and the front covers from two boxes of Smith Brothers Wild Cherry Cough Drops—and mail to:

SMITH BROTHERS
P. O. Box No. 207
New York 46; N. Y.

HURRY! While supply lasts!

WOW! KIDS!

IM GIVING AWAY 10,000 OFFICIAL BAZOOKA SCOUTING KNIVES!

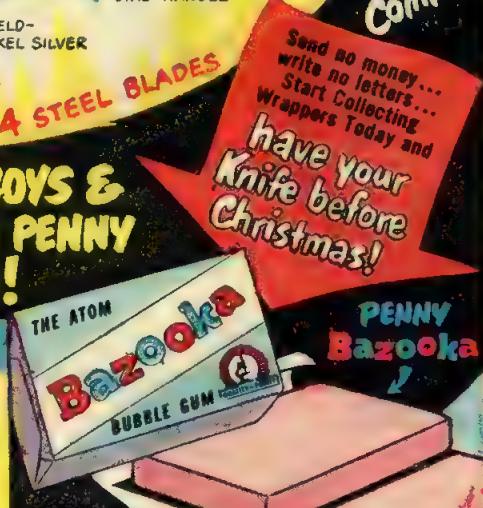
YESSIREE! IT'S THE KNIFE!
YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED!
WHAT A GIFT!



TO THE FIRST 10,000 BOYS & GIRLS TO SEND IN 100 PENNY BAZOOKA WRAPPERS!

YOU CAN WIN my official scouting knife! Just follow these simple rules!

1. Start today to save the wrappers from delicious PENNY BAZOOKA Bubble Gum. ALL BAZOOKA wrappers are good for this KNIFE OFFER.
2. When you have collected one hundred of these red, white and blue silver foil wrappers, put them in an envelope, with your name and address on a slip of paper inside.
3. Mail to BAZOOKA, Dept. RB, Box 100, Brooklyn 32, N. Y. The first 10,000 entries received in this prize award will win my BAZOOKA Scouting Knife. Entries judged by the date and hour of the postmark on your letter to give everybody, everywhere the same chance. Duplicate prizes in case of ties.
4. Entries must be postmarked not later than midnight, December 15, 1949, to qualify.
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2 BIG CHEWS 1¢

Made by the makers of Topps Chewing Gum

**Prizes!
Comics!**

Send no money...
write no letters...
Start Collecting
Wrappers Today and

have your
Knife before
Christmas!

**PENNY
BAZOOKA**

BATMAN

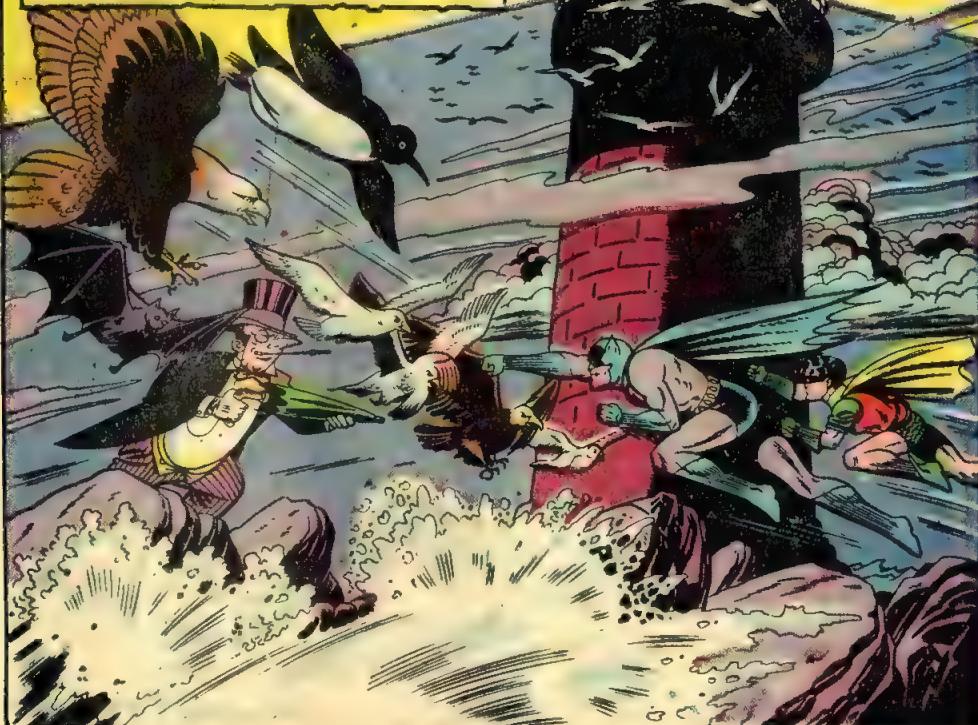
WITH:

ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

He's Back--THAT DROLL LITTLE MAN OF A THOUSAND UMBRELLAS, ALL OF THEM DANGEROUS... THAT AMAZING UNDERWORLDING WHO MAKES HENCHMEN OUT OF BIRDS, BOMBS OUT OF EGGS, AND FOOLS OUT OF MANY PEOPLE--IN SHORT, THE PLOTTING, PILFERING, PLUNDERING PENGUIN! BACK FROM THE BIG HOUSE--WITH NOVEL AND NEFARIOUS NOTIONS FOR ELUDING THE LAW, A QUARTER-MILLION-DOLLAR PRIZE TO STRIVE FOR, AND A FANTASTIC CRIME PROGRAM THAT DRAWS BATMAN AND ROBIN INTO ONE OF THE STRANGEST CASES OF THEIR ADVENTUROUS CAREER..

"THE RIDDLE of the SEVEN BIRDS!"

BOB
KANE

AS "SQUEEZE" MILLER WALKS "THE LAST MILE" TO THE GOTHAM PENITENTIARY DEATH-HOUSE...



A STRANGE COINCIDENCE--! THE PENGUIN'S SENTENCE ENDS ON THE SAME DAY AS "SQUEEZE" MILLER'S EXECUTION!



OUTSIDE THE PRISON WALLS...

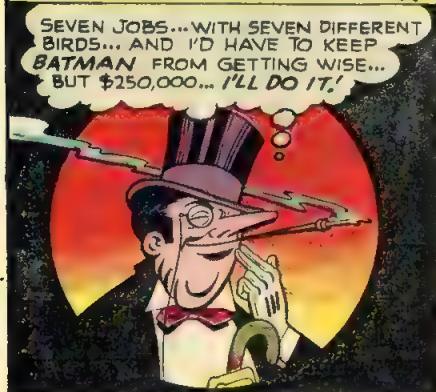


WHAT! YOU SAY MILLER LEFT ME \$250,000 WORTH OF BONDS IN HIS WILL? BUT HE HATED ME! WHAT'S THE CATCH?

THERE ARE CERTAIN CONDITIONS WHICH I WILL READ TO YOU...



THE CONDITIONS ARE STRANGE--THE PENGUIN HESITATES--THEN CONSENTS!'



MEANWHILE, BATMAN AND ROBIN WONDER IF THE PENGUIN HAS REALLY REFORMED. IN THE BATCAVE...

HE TOLD REPORTER'S HE WAS RETIRING TO A QUIET SPOT TO FORGET HIS CRIMINAL PAST--IT SAYS HERE!

THE PENGUIN'S GREED FOR MONEY DOESN'T MAKE HIS REFORM VERY LIKELY. LET'S NOT BE CAUGHT NAPPING, ROBIN.



THE "QUIET SPOT"... THE NEW PENGUIN ROOST!



IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, THE PENGUIN'S BIRDS ARE BUSY! AN EAGLE CLAWS AT A DUMMY OF BATMAN! A SEAGULL SNATCHES AN IMITATION DIAMOND!

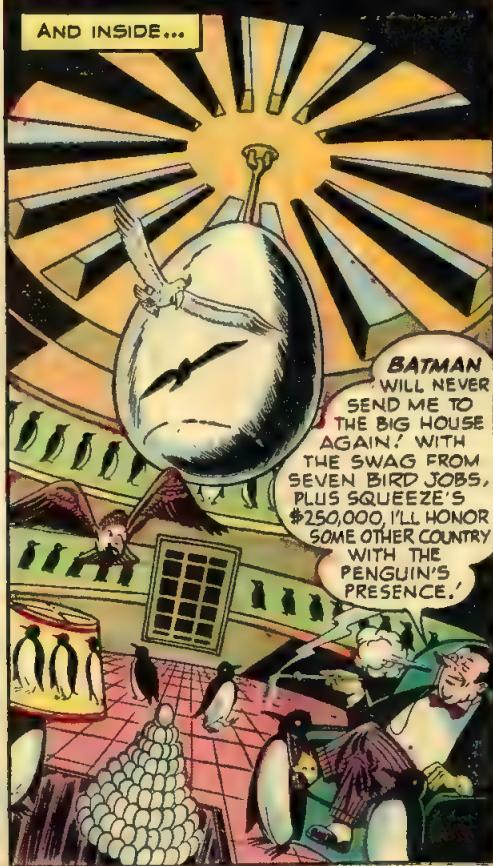


MY BIRDS ARE FAST LEARNING TO ACCOMPLISH THE SEVEN THINGS IT WILL TAKE TO MAKE ME RICH!

AND WITH MY TRICK UMBRELLAS TO THWART BATMAN'S FISTS... MY PENGUIN ROCKET PLANE TO PLAY TAG WITH HIS BATPLANE... MY EGG BOMBS... AND MY SUPERIOR BRAIN... HOW CAN I LOSE?



AND INSIDE...



BATMAN WILL NEVER SEND ME TO THE BIG HOUSE AGAIN! WITH THE SWAG FROM SEVEN BIRD JOBS, PLUS SQUEEZE'S \$250,000, I'LL HONOR SOME OTHER COUNTRY WITH THE PENGUIN'S PRESENCE!

CONFIDENTLY, THE PENGUIN PREPARES TO CARRY OUT THE FIRST PROVISION OF "SQUEEZE" MILLER'S WILL WITH THE AID OF - A PELICAN!

THE FIRST OF THE SEVEN BIRDS -- AND THE PERFECT ONE FOR THE PERFECT CRIME I'M PLANNING!

PRESIDENTLY, IN THE CHINESE ROOM OF GOTHAM MUSEUM...



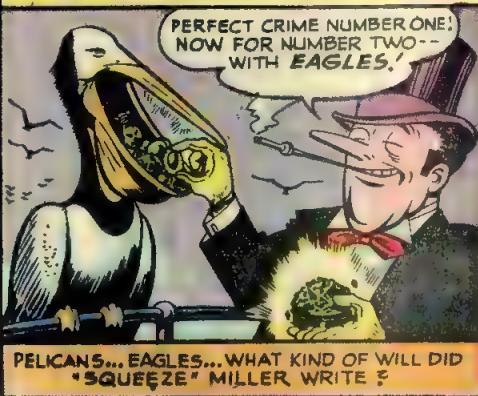
FROM THE INTERIOR OF HIS CAPACIOUS UMBRELLA, THE PENGUIN PRODUCES SMALL FISH, WHICH HE PLACES UPON THE MOST VALUABLE PIECES OF JADE...



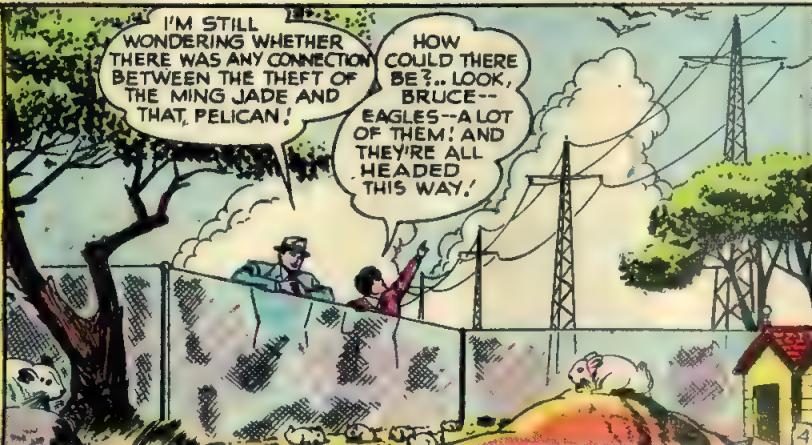
MINUTES LATER...



BACK AT PENGUIN ROOST...



AS BRUCE WAYNE WEALTHY MAN-ABOUT-TOWN, AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, STROLL ABOUT A FRIEND'S CHINCHILLA RANCH NEXT DAY...





FOR A SPLIT SECOND, THE COMPANIONS ARE HELD SPELLBOUND BY AN AMAZING SPECTACLE! THEN...

BRUCE! THE EAGLES!
THEY'RE KILLING
ANIMALS WORTH
A FORTUNE!

NO,
DICK--CARRYING
THEM AWAY ALIVE!
THE EAGLES' TALONS
HAVE BEEN CLIPPED!
COME ON--BATMAN
AND ROBIN MAY BE
ABLE TO DO SOMETHING!

A LIGHTNING TRANSFORMATION... AND
BATMAN AND ROBIN LAUNCH A DESPERATE,
DANGEROUS COUNTER-ATTACK!

THEY'RE
ALL FLYING
EXACTLY THE
SAME COURSE, AS
IF FOLLOWING A
BEAM--AND
PASSING SO CLOSE
TO THE MAST
WE OUGHT TO
GRAB SOME
TAIL FEATHERS,
AT LEAST!

EVEN IF
WE ONLY SCARE
THE OTHERS OFF,
IT WILL SAVE
A LOT OF MONEY
AND WORRY!



SUDDENLY... TWIN FURIES, WHOSE TALONS
HAVE NOT BEEN CLIPPED, STRIKE WITH
TERRIFIC FORCE!

OW! IT ISN'T
FUN ANY MORE.
LET'S GET OUT
OF HERE!

NICE
CATCH!

GREAT
SCOTT--THEY'RE
GIANT EAGLES,
TRAINED TO ATTACK
MEN! AND I CAN'T
LET GO OF YOU
TO FIGHT
THEM!



HELPLESS, AND IN AGONY FROM THE RAKING CLAWS AND STABBING BEAKS, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS TAKE A DESPERATE CHANCE...



THRUSTING MIGHTILY, ROBIN STARTLES HIS TORMENTOR INTO RETREAT--AND AS THE GREAT BIRD'S PINIONS BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN TWO CABLES...



IN THE BATCAVE, AFTER THE BATTLE...

NOW I'M WILLING TO BELIEVE THAT PELICAN HAD A PART IN THE JADE ROBBERY, BATMAN, AND SOME HUMAN BRAIN MUST BE DIRECTING THESE BIRDS IN CRIME. WHOSE?

I'M NOT SAYING WHOSE, BUT I THINK WE BOTH CAN GUESS!



NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, THE DYNAMIC DUO PROWL LIKE A PAIR OF HUNTING PANTHERS--AND ONE DARK NIGHT...

A SWANK LAWN PARTY--AND A PRETTY GIRL STARTING TO CUT THE BIGGEST CAKE I EVER SAW!



AS THE ENORMOUS CAKE IS CUT OPEN...

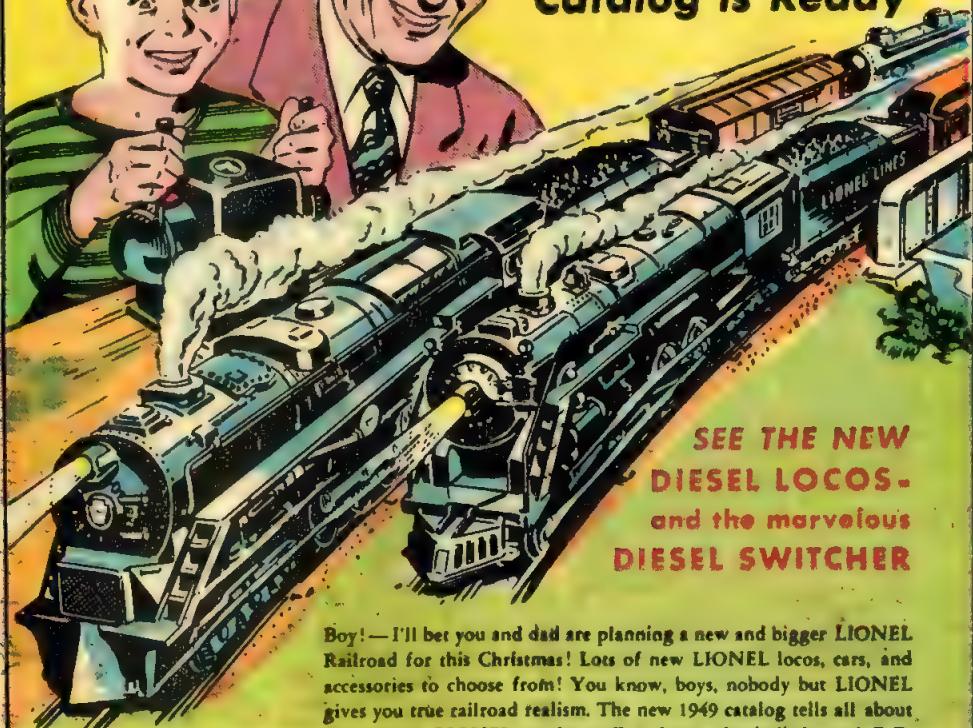
BATS! OH-H-H!

I'M GOING TO FAINT!

LIGHTS OUT, NIPPER; CUT THOSE WIRES!



-Hi Fellows! The NEW
LIONEL
TRAINS
Catalog is Ready



**SEE THE NEW
 DIESEL LOCOS—
 and the marvelous
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Name

Address

City Zone State

WHILE FRIGHTENED WOMEN AND CONFUSED MEN MILL IN THE DARKNESS, NIMBLE FIGURES DART AMONG THEM—AND NIMBLER ONES SWING IN!

A HIT-AND-RUN SNATCH JOB—with BATS TO START THE CONFUSION!

MY PEARLS!



ANOTHER LURKER IN THE SHRUBBERY, BEING DISCOVERED, PROCEEDS TO MAKE HIMSELF INVISIBLE!

BATMAN! HERE'S SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T BELONG.

THE BATS DID THEIR JOB PERFECTLY, BUT—I'VE BEEN SPOTTED! THIS FOG-SCREEN WILL KEEP ME FROM BEING RECOGNIZED!



OTHER BIRD CRIMES, EVERY BIT AS INCREDIBLE, FOLLOW IN SWIFT SUCCESSION...



WUXTREE!
READ
ABOUT THE
ROBBER
BIRDS!



THE FIGHTING PAIR GROPS BLINDLY THROUGH THE PENGUIN-CREATED HAZE WITH THIS RESULT...

TEE-HEE! THEY NEVER SAW ME! I'VE SCORED THREE TIMES IN A ROW AND THE BONDS ARE AS GOOD AS MINE!

CAN'T SEE A THING— COVER YOUR EYES!



A HOSPITAL PHYSICIAN ACCEPTS AN ANONYMOUS GIFT OF A PAIR OF RARE UMBRELLA BIRDS FROM THE GUIANAS—TO HIS SORROW.

STOP THEM! THEY GOT OUT OF THEIR CAGE AND PICKED UP RADIUM WORTH HALF A MILLION!





ONE HUGE BIRD IS SHOT...

IT FLEW IN AND GRABBED THE BIGGEST BUNDLE OF CASH IN SIGHT! LUCKY I HAD THIS SHOTGUN HANDY, IN CASE OF HOLDUPS! WHAT IS IT, BATMAN?

AN INDIA VULTURE - BIGGER AND STRONGER THAN THE AMERICAN VARIETY!

ACME FINANCE CO.



ALWAYS THERE IS A PATTERN, INTENTIONAL OR ACCIDENTAL, TO SUCH A FANTASTIC SERIES OF CRIMES - AND BATMAN AND ROBIN SEEK IT.

HMM... THAT UMBRELLA BIRD MIGHT BE A CLUE TO A CERTAIN SOMEBODY WHO IS FOND OF UMBRELLAS...

I'VE FOUND IT, BATMAN! THIS BAT, STUNNED AT THE BIRTHDAY PARTY, AND DIFFERENT THAN THE ONES AROUND HERE, IS A NOCTULE BAT. IT'S FOUND IN MEXICO!

PELICAN
EAGLE
BAT
SEAGULL
UMBRELLA BIRD
INDIA VULTURE



THAT DOES IT, ROBIN! FOR SOME IDIOTIC REASON, THE MAN BEHIND THESE CRIMES HAS ACTUALLY TOLD US HIS NAME!

I DON'T GET IT!



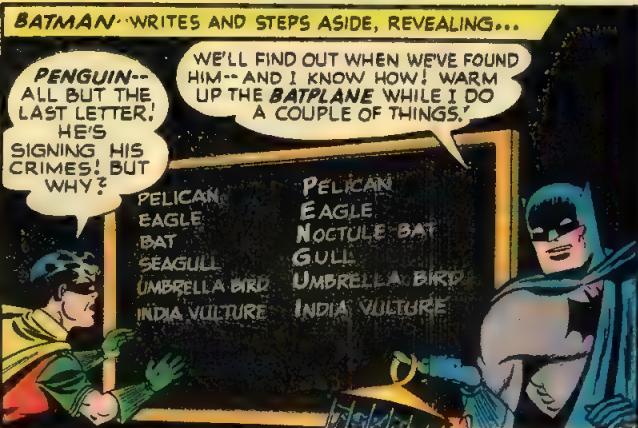
BATMAN WRITES AND STEPS ASIDE, REVEALING...

PENGUIN-- ALL BUT THE LAST LETTER! HE'S SIGNING HIS CRIMES! BUT WHY?

WE'LL FIND OUT WHEN WE'VE FOUND HIM-- AND I KNOW HOW! WARM UP THE BATPLANE WHILE I DO A COUPLE OF THINGS.

PELICAN
EAGLE
NOCTULE BAT
BAT
SEAGULL
UMBRELLA BIRD
INDIA VULTURE

PELICAN
EAGLE
NOCTULE BAT
GULL
UMBRELLA BIRD
INDIA VULTURE



THRUST FORWARD BY SUPER-JETS, THE ONE AND ONLY BATPLANE RACES ACROSS THE SKIES-- CARRYING THIS TIME A LIVE BAT!

BATS WILL FLY HUNDREDS OF MILES BY INSTINCT TO FIND THEIR OWN KIND, ROBIN. IF THE PENGUIN HAS OTHERS, THIS ONE WILL LEAD US TO THEM!

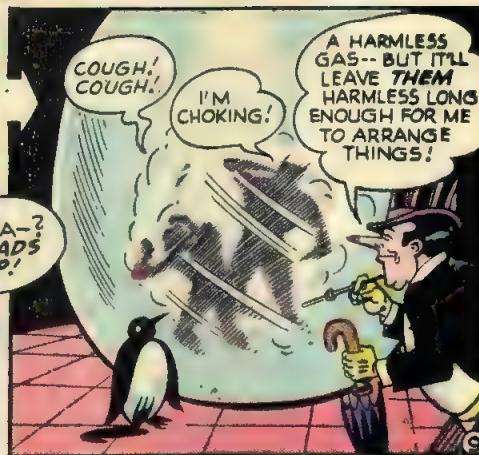
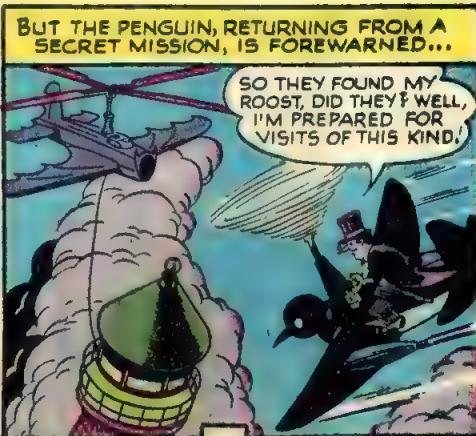
BUT HOW CAN WE FLY ON THE TRAIL OF A BAT AT NIGHT?



EVER HAVE ANY TROUBLE SEEING A FIREFLY AT NIGHT, AS LONG AS HE KEPT LIT UP?

GREAT! YOU GAVE HIM A COAT OF THAT NEW PHOSPHORESCENT PAINT WE DEVELOPED IN THE LABORATORY!







AFTER MINUTES OF BLACKNESS--THE BLACKER AWAKENING!

WHERE--?
OH, YES, I
REMEMBER!
THOSE EAGLES--

THEY'VE BEEN TRAINED ON
DUMMIES TO HATE YOU AND
ROBIN! YOUR LEAST MOVE
WOULD RELEASE THEM--
AND, BOUND AS YOU
ARE, THEY'D TEAR
YOU TO
BITS!



NOW FOR THE LAST OF
MY "SIGNATURE CRIMES," USING
NIGHTINGALES. 'N' IS FOR
NIGHTINGALE! AND JUST FOR
LUCK, I'M TAKING THIS
NOCTULE BAT ALONG--
AND USING THE
BAT-PLANE INSTEAD
OF MY OWN!

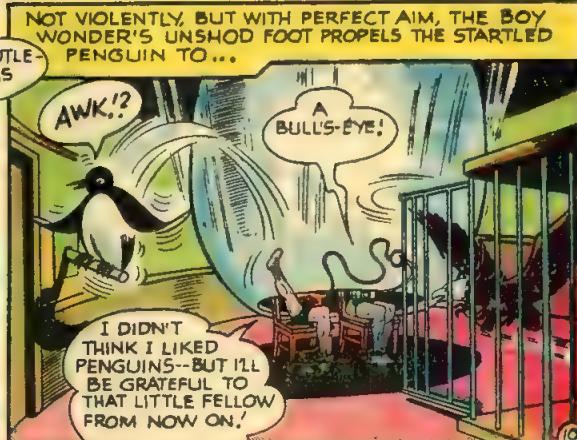
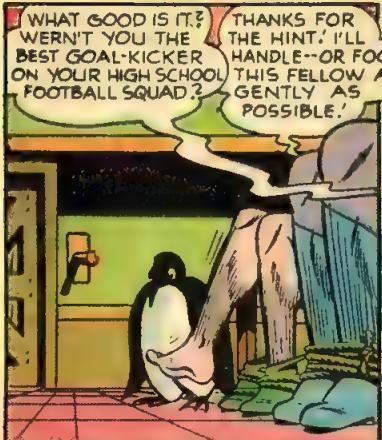
MOVING CAUTIOUSLY, LEST THEY FREE THE
ENRAGED EAGLES, THE CAPTIVE CRIME-
FIGHTERS STRUGGLE--AND SWEAT.



WHAT GOOD IS IT?
WERN'T YOU THE
BEST GOAL-KICKER
ON YOUR HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL SQUAD?

THANKS FOR
THE HINT! I'LL
HANDLE--OR FOOTLE--
THIS FELLOW AS
GENTLY AS
POSSIBLE!

NOT VIOLENTLY, BUT WITH PERFECT AIM, THE BOY
WONDER'S UNSHOD FOOT PROPELS THE STARTLED
PENGUIN TO ...



I DIDN'T
THINK I LIKED
PENGUINS--BUT I'LL
BE GRATEFUL TO
THAT LITTLE FELLOW
FROM NOW ON!

HITCHING THEIR CHAIRS BACK TO BACK, THE PRISONERS WORK ON ONE ANOTHER'S BONDS WITH A KNOW-HOW BORN OF LONG PRACTICE...

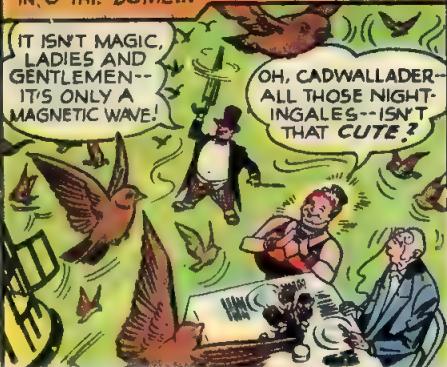
IF WE CAN MAKE IT, I CAN GUESS WHERE THE PENGUIN'S HEADING—LOOSENING ALREADY!



BENEATH THE CRYSTAL DOME OF THE LOFTY GOTHAM TOWER, A GLITTERING THROG HAS GATHERED FOR THE NIGHT CLUB OPENING...



A CIRCULAR SWEEP OF A REMARKABLE UMBRELLA AND AS IF BY MAGIC, CAGES OPEN AND FEATHERED SONGSTERS DART INTO THE DOME...



BUT WHAT'S THIS?... NEAR-INVISIBLE THREADS SNAP AS WINGS BRUSH THEM--AND A SHOWER OF EGG-BOMBS DESCENDS!



AND NOW—
ENTER THE
DYNAMIC
DUO!

HERE WE
GO AGAIN,
FELLA!

BUT BY
THAT TIME--
SINCE THE
GAS ALREADY
HAS BECOME
HARMLESS—I'LL
HAVE COLLECTED
EVERY VALUABLE
JEWEL IN
THE PLACE!
HA, HA!

IT
CAN'T
BE YOU AGAIN;
BUT JUST
IN CASE IT
IS—
OOPS!

TOO LATE THE PUDGY VILLAIN SEES HIS PERIL! FLAME
SPITS FROM AN UMBRELLA--AND BURNS EMPTY AIR!

FIREWORKS
WITH THE
FLOOR SHOW,
NO LESS!

ON THE ORCHESTRA STAGE, THE PENGUIN
LEAPS UPON A KETTLEDRUM--WITH
ASTONISHING RESULTS!



AS THE DYNAMIC DUO REACHES THE PEAK OF THE DOME
WITH THE AID OF BATMAN'S SILKEN ROPE...



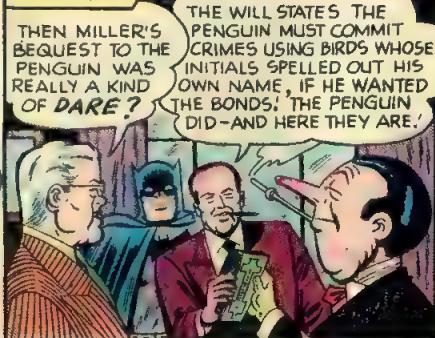
PLUMMETING TO THE CURVE OF THE DOME, THE PENGUIN
SLIDES TOWARD THE THREAT OF DEATH HUNDREDS OF
FEET BELOW...



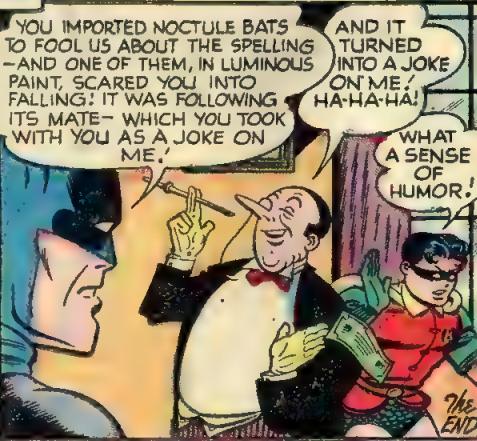
THOUGH MATCHLESS ACROBATS AND PARTNERS IN PERIL, SELDOM HAS THE PRECISION PAIR PERFORMED SO PERILOUSLY! A PLUNGE... A SICKENING SLIDE... AND AT THE VERY EDGE OF THE ABYSS...



LATER, WITH THE HELP OF INFORMATION FROM HORACE SPRINGER, THE WHOLE AMAZING STORY COMES OUT IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...



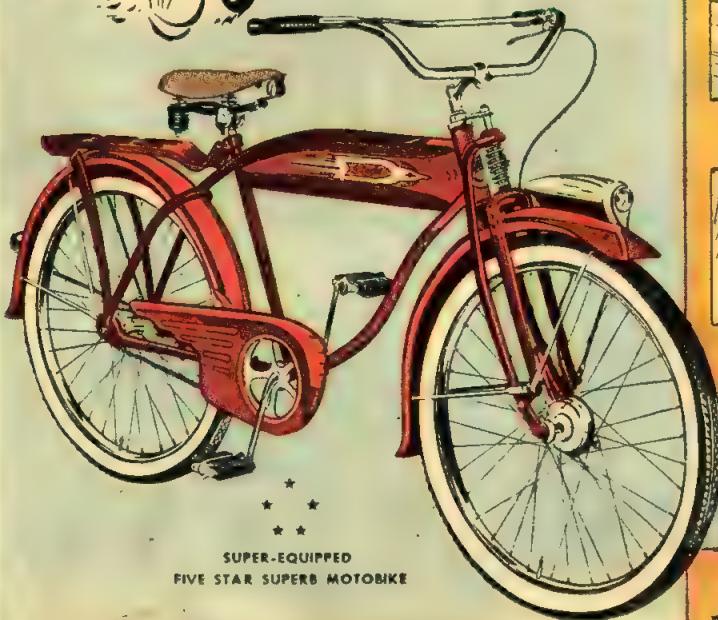
YET, EVEN IN THIS DARK MOMENT, THE PECULIAR PENGUIN CAN LAUGH!



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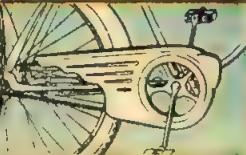
LET US HELP YOU GET IT! If you want this grand bicycle for Christmas we'd like to help you get it. Write name of your Father, Mother or Guardian on the coupon, and we'll send a catalog and letter saying that you want it, and telling all the reasons why it is the best bike for you!



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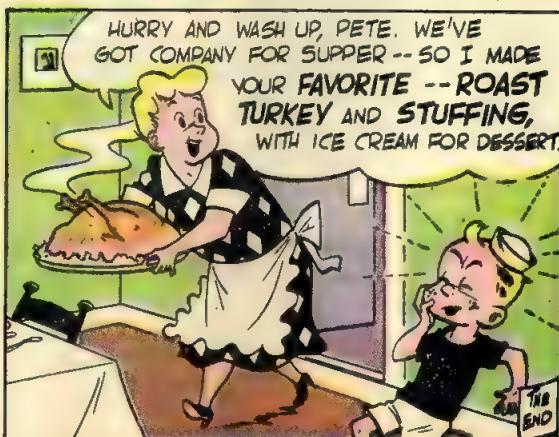
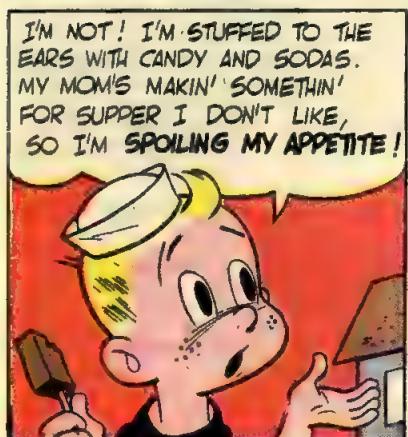
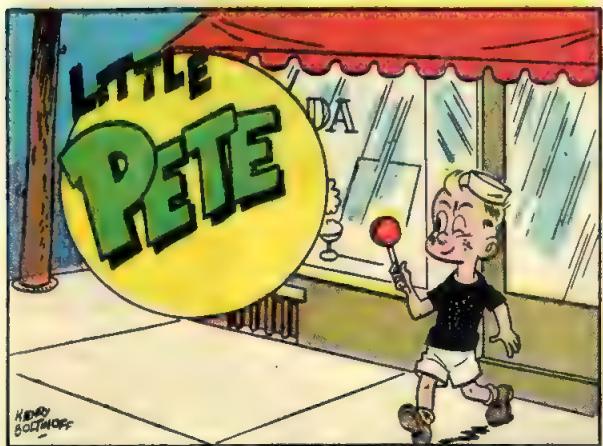
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My name _____ Age _____

My Father's Name _____

Address _____



WHOOOSH

-and You're There!



“WE made up our minds at the last minute to go to Buenos Aires yesterday. Dad had something to talk over with the South American office, and wanted to do it in person; we had a quick lunch at home, and made Buenos Aires before dinner.”

And that, readers, could very well be an excerpt from a letter you will write some years from now. It probably doesn't surprise you. We have, in this age of science, come to accept almost anything in the way of predictions about the world of the future. Anyway, before you know it, the world of the future becomes the world of the present. In our grandfathers' day, almost everybody took a very dim view of “progress.” Telephones, radios, automobiles, electricity, and flying were all considered nightmares of impractical dreamers. Even when they made their appearance, there were still a few diehards who maintained stubbornly that these “newfangled” inventions would soon disappear.

But in this day and age, nothing is impossible. We are on the brink of the *rocket age*. During the last war, we became accustomed to the work of rockets—deadly work, and terrifying. Now, however, with the hope of eternal peace in mind, scientists are beginning to see

the actuality of putting rockets to work for humanity instead of against it. Soon, we may very well be seeing the rocket age with its many contributions to a better way of life.

Ten years ago, there were scientists who claimed that jet-propelled craft couldn't work. Now, scientists are talking of reaching other planets, such as Mars and Venus.

You may ask, to what uses can rockets be put? Aside from super-speed for world-girdling passengers, there must be some other practical reasons for rockets.

Actually, scientists are thinking of rocket travel, not so much for people, as for research into cosmic problems, hitherto never solved.

Within a few months, a well-developed course in rocket study will start at two of the nation's leading centers for rocket research. Princeton University and the California Institute of Technology will turn their attention to the planning of peacetime rocket uses.

One of the outstanding phases of rocket research is high altitude findings. From New Mexico, V-2 rockets have zoomed off into the stratosphere, carrying photographic equipment, instruments of all kinds for weather measuring, and other gadgets for determining what goes on above us. A recent trip

by a V-2 rocket is known to have soared 250 miles upwards into space.

Weather may be forecast exclusively by rockets in the not too distant future. The method used today is balloon ascension. Instruments are placed in the balloon, which is sent aloft. But the balloon has many disadvantages for weather findings. They tend to drift and are subject to all sorts of uncertainties. Small rockets, it is hoped, may be put into use for meteorological experiments. They could penetrate any kind of weather, and would be controlled in such a way that they would bring back weather reports to a designated spot.

High altitude rockets have already proved to be of enormous value in photography, mapping problems, searching for lost aircraft, etc.

Not long ago, rockets bearing photographic equipment reached altitudes of 60 to 80 miles, returned to earth, and revealed many things. The camera is usually smashed in such trips back to earth, but the film is always intact.

Astronomers, too, are very excited about the future of high altitude rockets. At this time, astronomers have had to be content with pictures and sights of the sun, stars, and planets through a

thick haze of the earth's atmosphere—some 200 miles of it to be exact. By day, the stars are invisible because of sunlight. By night, the impressions of the stars reach us without many of their natural characteristics, such as ultra-violet and other wave-lengths. It is hoped that rocket photography may disclose the nature of the universe.

Other hopes that may become realities are the swift delivery of mail all over the world, transportation of express items, etc., that bid fair to make the telegraph system look obsolete.

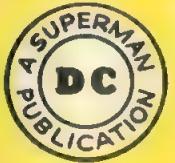
But even more exciting to contemplate, of course, is the idea of you rocketing around from here to there just as comfortably and calmly as you might ride a bike or take a train trip.

Experiments being conducted now give evidence that there will be a long-range rocket craft for passenger use. Such transcontinental or trans-oceanic flights will be the final and hopeful goal of a true One World.

You want to spend an afternoon with a Chinese farmer, watch the machine production in a factory in Hungary, buy some cheese in Denmark, bring a gift back for Susy from Persia? Rocket away! The time is near.



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CASEY

THE COP

HENRY
SOUTHOFF

WHY SO MAD,
JACKSON?

I FINALLY GOT AROUND
TO PAINTING THIS FENCE
OF MINE --

-AND I RAN SHORT OF PAINT.
THE STORES ARE ALL CLOSED
TODAY, TOO!

SAY - I KNOW
WHAT YOU CAN DO!

NOW NO ONE CAN SAY YOUR FENCE
ISN'T
ALL PAINTED!

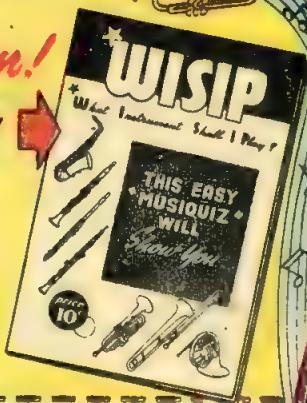


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BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

WE DON'T NEED
YOU ON THIS CASE,
BATMAN! WE'VE
GOT AN EXPERT!

BOB
KANE

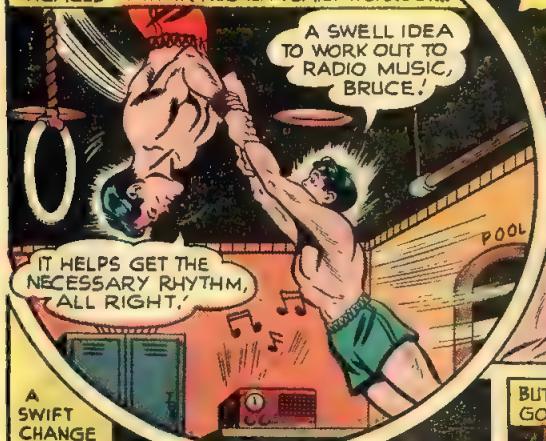


FOR YEARS, THE MIGHTIEST ALLIES OF THE POLICE IN THEIR UNCEASING WAR AGAINST THE UNDERWORLD HAVE BEEN THE WORLD'S GREATEST CRIME-CRUSHERS—THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER! ALWAYS, THE POLICE HAVE BEEN GRATEFUL FOR THE INTREPID DUO'S HELP—ALWAYS, UNTIL NOW! FOR SUDDENLY THE DYNAMIC DUO IS OUTDONE BY AN AMATEUR SLEUTH THE POLICE REGARD AS...

"A GREATER DETECTIVE THAN BATMAN!"



IN THEIR PRIVATE GYM, BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON ARE ENGAGED IN THEIR REGULAR DAILY WORKOUT...



A SWIFT CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND FROM THE HIDDEN BATCAVE ROLLS THE MIGHTY BAT-MOBILE!

THAT'S FUNNY--I DON'T SEE THE BAT SIGNAL CALLING US YET!

IT WILL, IN A MOMENT!



SUDDENLY, A STARTLING INTERRUPTION BREAKS THEIR ROUTINE!

WE INTERRUPT THE MUSIC FOR A NEWS-FLASH! THE NOTORIOUS CRIMINAL 'SPECS' ROSE JUST STAGED A ROBBERY OF INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS DOWNTOWN!



BUT AS MINUTES PASS, AND THE DUO RACES INTO GOTHAM CITY...

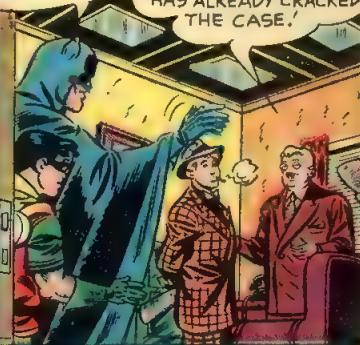
STILL NO BAT-SIGNAL! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE POLICE?

WE'LL SOON FIND OUT!



YOU DIDN'T CALL US BY THE BAT-SIGNAL, COMMISSIONER, BUT WE CAME ANYWAY WHEN WE HEARD OF THAT ROBBERY!

WE DIDN'T CALL YOU, BATMAN, BECAUSE WE DIDN'T NEED YOU! JACK STARR, THE GOTHAM EXPRESS CRIME REPORTER, HAS ALREADY CRACKED THE CASE!



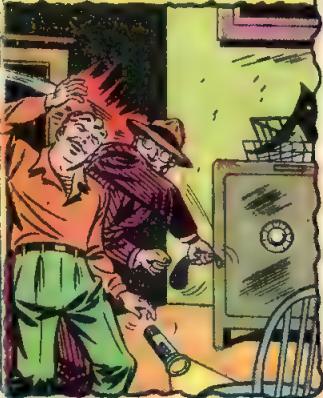
WHAT, ALREADY? THAT'S MIGHTY FAST WORK, STARR!

IT WAS NOTHING, REALLY!

DON'T BE SO MODEST, STARR! IT WAS A BRILLIANT PIECE OF DETECTION! LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT IT, BATMAN!



"IT STARTED WHEN SPECS ROSE SLUGGED THE WATCHMAN OF THE INDUSTRIAL DIAMOND COMPANY, RIGHT NEXT TO THE GOTHAM EXPRESS OFFICE!"



"THIS DESPERATE CRIMINAL FORCED THE SAFE AND CARRIED OFF SEVERAL BIG CASES OF INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS USED IN DRILLS, WORTH THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS!"

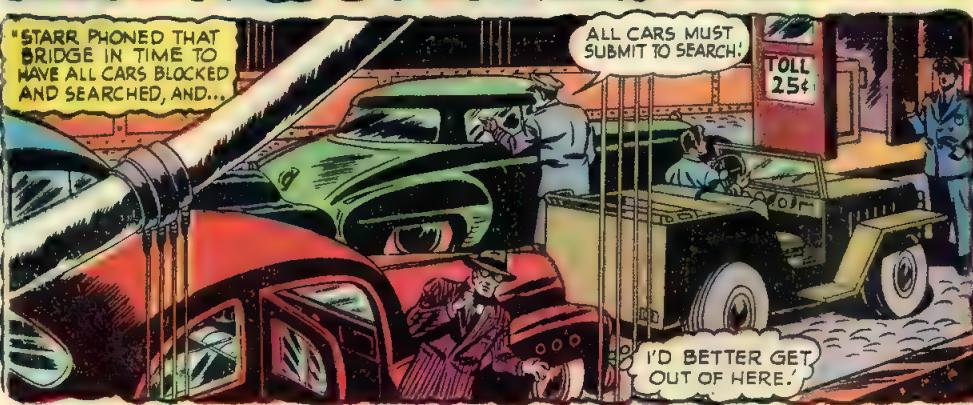


"CRIME REPORTER JACK STARR, FROM THE EXPRESS NEXT DOOR, WAS ON THE SCENE FIRST, AND FOUND A CLUE!"

SAY, THIS SLIP IS A TOLL-BRIDGE RECEIPT! IF THE BANDIT CAME THAT WAY, HE'D GO BACK THE SAME WAY TO HIS HIDEOUT!



"STARR PHONED THAT BRIDGE IN TIME TO HAVE ALL CARS BLOCKED AND SEARCHED, AND...



ALL CARS MUST
SUBMIT TO SEARCH!

I'D BETTER GET
OUT OF HERE!



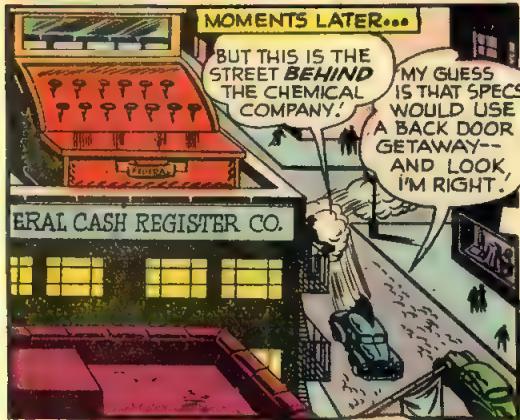
SPECS ESCAPED ON FOOT, BUT HIS CASES OF LOOT WERE TOO HEAVY TO CARRY AND SO WE RECOVERED THEM--THANKS TO JACK STARR!

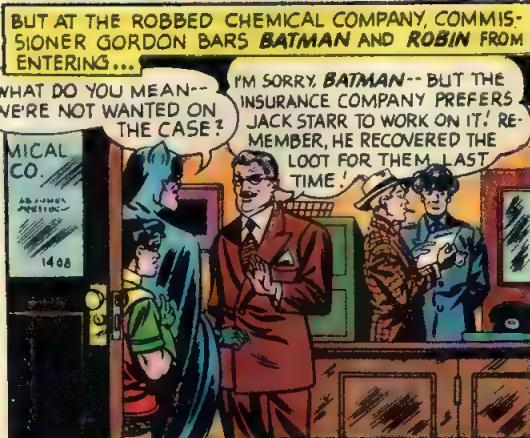
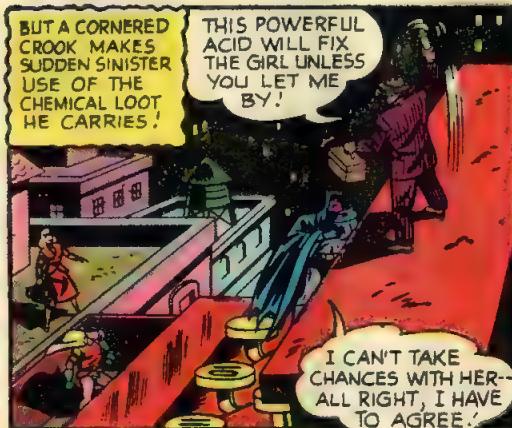
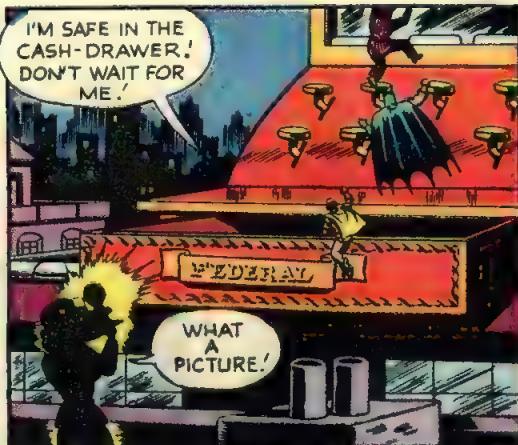
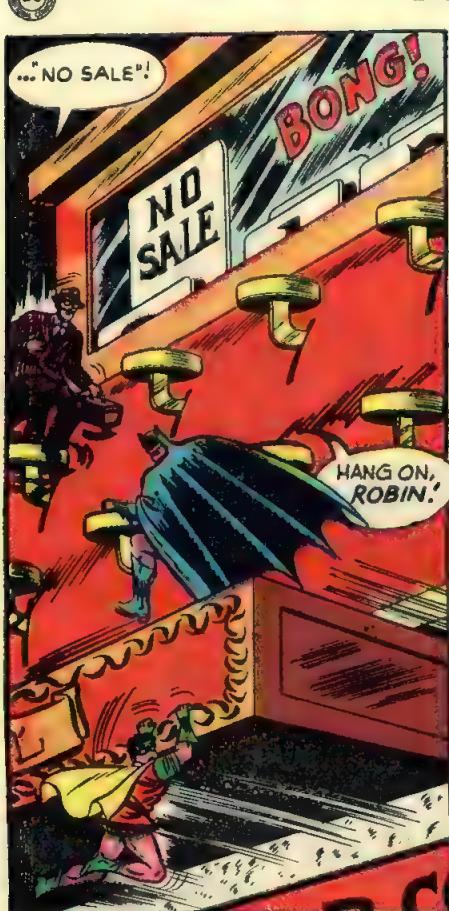
GEE, MR. STARR, THAT WAS SLICK SLEUTHING!

YOU SAVED OUR INSURANCE COMPANY SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS, MR. STARR! WE THANK YOU!

COME ON, ROBIN... THEY DON'T NEED US NOW!







This mammoth bridge is made entirely of Erector girders. So strong it can support 200-lb. man.

Made of STEEL to Build like REAL

World's greatest construction toy

Developed at the
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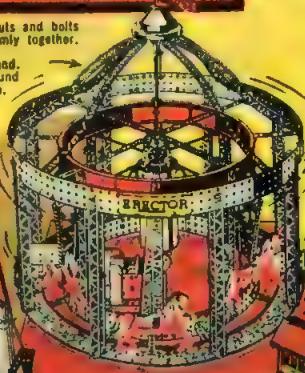
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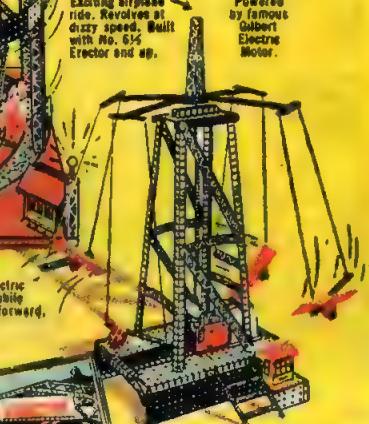


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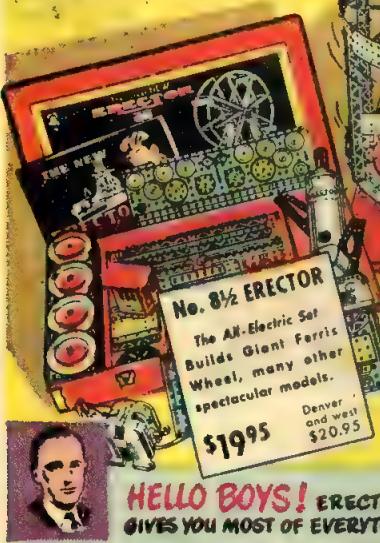
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Television Set, movie camera outfit or other big award for
building original Erector models. Mail coupon for details.

MEANWHILE, JACK STARR, THE AMAZING AMATEUR DETECTIVE BEGINS HIS SLEUTHING ...

HE GOT ONLY A FEW HUNDRED DOLLARS WORTH OF PLATINUM, MR. STARR. HERE'S AN EMPTY BOX HE LEFT BEHIND WHEN HE COULDN'T FILL IT WITH LOOT.

WHY, THIS IS A FROZEN FOOD CARTON! IT SAYS "ARCTIC FOOD LOCKER" INSIDE IT! BETTER CHECK THAT LOCKER AT ONCE!

YOU GUessed IT, MR. STARR! HE'D CACHED THE LOOT AWAY IN A PUBLIC FOOD-LOCKER!

LATER...

JACK STARR AGAIN OUTSHINES BATMAN AS DETECTIVE.

IT MAKES ME SICK! ANYONE COULD DO WHAT HE DID, WITH SUCH OBVIOUS CLUES!

FORGET IT--ROBIN AND I ARE GOING TO KEEP SEARCHING THESE STREETS FOR SPECS!

THE NEXT DAY, WHEN VICKI VISITS THE GOTHAM EXPRESS OFFICE...

THE IDEA OF YOU COMPARING YOURSELF TO BATMAN!

AW, HE'S A LITTLE OVERRATED, AND WHY DON'T YOU STOP SPYING ON ME, MISS VALE, AND GO BACK TO YOUR OWN MAGAZINE?

PHONE FOR YOU, JACK--ONE OF YOUR NEWS-TIPS, I GUESS.

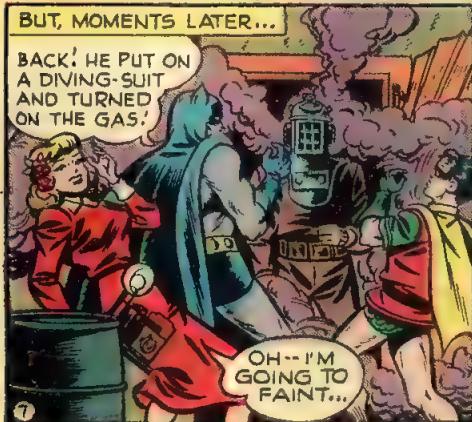
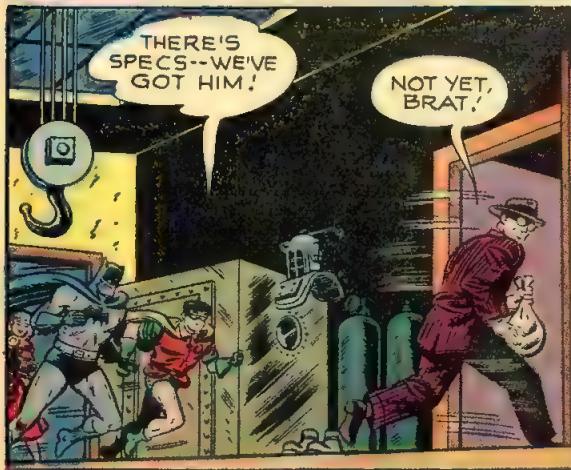
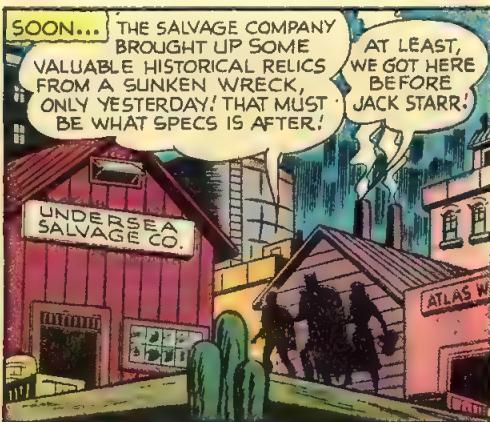
YOU SAY YOU JUST SAW SPECS NEAR THE UNDER-SEA SALVAGE COMPANY? I'LL GET THERE PRONTO!

I'VE GOT TO TELL BATMAN THIS AT ONCE.

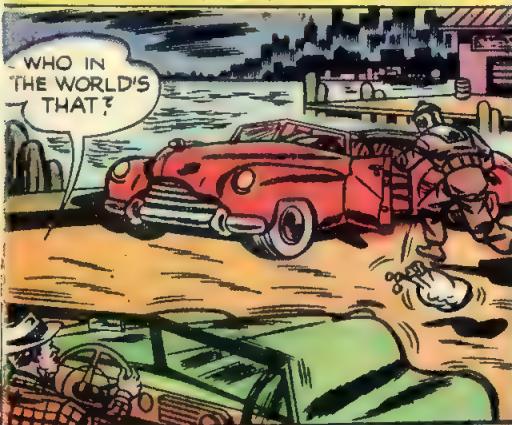
MOMENTS AFTERWARDS...

BATMAN, SPECS IS PROWLING AROUND THE UNDER-SEA SALVAGE COMPANY!

THAT'S ALL I WANT TO KNOW! I KNOW A SHORT-CUT THERE!



BUT AS JACK STARR RACES ONTO THE SCENE...



MOMENTS LATER, WITH A BANDIT AGAIN ESCAPED...



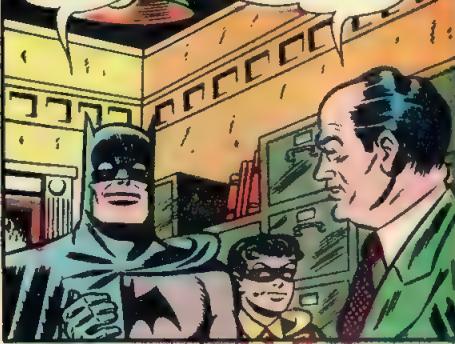
IT'S MY FAULT HE GOT AWAY FROM YOU! AND AGAIN JACK STARR RECOVERED THE LOOT BY SHEER LUCK!



I BELIEVE SPECS IS PLAYING A DEEP GAME! LET'S GO BACK TO THAT INDUSTRIAL DIAMOND COMPANY HE FIRST ROBBED.

WAS ALL THE LOOT RECOVERED THAT SPECS ROSE TOOK?

ALL OF IT, EXCEPT ONE DIAMOND-DRILL. BUT THAT WASN'T MUCH LOSS!



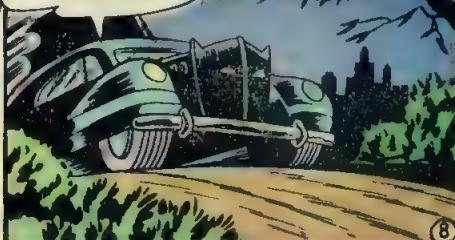
EACH TIME, SPECS GOT AWAY WITH SOMETHING HE wanted--A DIAMOND DRILL, A FLASK OF POWERFUL ACID, AND NOW A DIVING SUIT! HE'S PLANNING SOME BIG CRIME AND NEEDS THOSE THINGS FOR HIS COUP!



BUT WHY DID HE TAKE THE OTHER LOOT, AND THEN LET STARR RECOVER IT?

I BELIEVE THAT WAS A *BLIND*, SO NOBODY WOULD NOTICE THE OTHER THINGS HE TOOK AND GUESS HIS PLANS!

WHAT CRIME CAN HE BE PLANNING? WHAT ROBBERY COULD HE COMMIT WITH A DIVING SUIT?



I'VE AN IDEA ON THAT! SEE THAT RAILROAD TRESTLE? A BIG BANK-CURRENCY SHIPMENT IS COMING IN BY TRAIN THIS WAY, TODAY!

A DIAMOND-DRILL, ACID, A DIVING SUIT—**BATMAN**, NO! IT WOULD BE TOO TERRIBLE A CRIME EVEN FOR SPEC'S ROSE!

BUT AT THAT MOMENT ON THE STEEL TRESTLE...

EVEN THIS SUPER-STRONG STEEL IS LIKE CHEESE TO A DIAMOND-DRILL!

AND THIS ACID WILL QUICKLY EAT INTO THE GIRDERS, SO IT WILL COLLAPSE UNDER THE NEXT TRAIN! ONCE THE TRAIN'S CRASHED INTO THE RIVER, I CAN SAFELY GET THE CURRENCY OUT OF IT WITH MY DIVING SUIT!

SOON...

WE'LL GO DOWN AND INVESTIGATE THOSE GIRDERS! IT'LL SOON BE TIME FOR THE TRAIN!

THWACK!

BATMAN, SOMEONE'S SHOOTING AT US!

LOOK, DRILL-HOLES FILLED WITH ACID! THIS TRESTLE WILL COLLAPSE UNDER A TRAIN'S WEIGHT!

WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM QUICKLY, ROBIN, YOU'RE THE LIGHTEST AND WILL FLY FARTHER... SO, OUR OLD TRAPEZE THROW!

READY!



THE GREEN ARROW

and the Red Feather Kid

IN A PACKED AUDITORIUM, A THRILLED CROWD WATCHES THE GREEN ARROW, WORLD'S FOREMOST ARCHERY EXPERT, DISPLAY HIS WIZARDRY WITH THE BOW AND ARROW...

ANOTHER BULL'S-EYE FOR THE GREEN ARROW!

YOU MEAN ANOTHER BULL'S-EYE FOR THE RED FEATHER SERVICES?

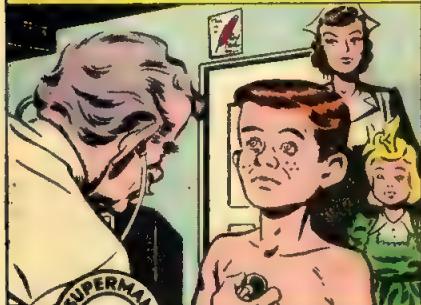
I'VE DISCARDED MY USUAL GREEN-FEATHERED ARROWS AND USED THESE RED-FEATHERED ONES FOR A SPECIAL REASON -- TO EMPHASIZE THE RED FEATHER, A SYMBOL OF SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE AGES... LIKE THIS ONE THE RED FEATHER KID WEARS IN HIS CAP...

HIS RED FEATHER IDENTIFIES THE VARIOUS SERVICES WHICH RECEIVE SUPPORT THROUGH COMMUNITY CHEST CAMPAIGNS -- SERVICES FOR SCOUTS, GIRLS AND BOYS CLUBS, THE Y'S...

...SERVICES FOR YOUNGSTERS IN DAY NURSERIES, SETTLEMENT HOUSES AND FOSTER HOMES...



...HEALTH SERVICES IN HOSPITALS, CLINICS AND CONVALESCENT HOMES...



THESE ARE ONLY SOME OF THE SERVICES YOU CONTRIBUTE TO WHEN YOU GIVE TO COMMUNITY CHEST CAMPAIGNS. SO GIVE GENEROUSLY!

YES, SCORE A BULL'S-EYE YOURSELF BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE RED FEATHER SERVICES! REMEMBER, IT'S 'A FEATHER IN YOUR CAP' TO WEAR A RED FEATHER!



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COLORS—Picture No.

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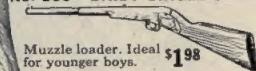
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